

## Proclamation

WHEREAS,

Dyslexia is a language-based disorder affecting 15 to 20 percent of the American population according to the International Dyslexia Association (IDA). IDA is dedicated to the research and treatment of dyslexia and the promotion of a universal awareness and understanding of the problems associated with dyslexia; and

WHEREAS,

Dyslexia, which comes from the Greek, meaning "difficulty with words," constitutes one of several distinct yet related learning disabilities and is characterized by language processing problems when decoding oral and written words or translating thought to language. This disorder deeply affects a person's ability to read, write, spell, and comprehend and may also cause problems in sequencing with numbers, letters, or instructions, differentiating between left and right handedness, and confusing concepts of space and time. It may also affect a person's emotional interactions and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS,

With proper diagnosis, appropriate instructions, hard work, and support from families, teachers, and friends, individuals with dyslexia can excel in school and/or employment. Children with dyslexia usually can succeed at the same level as their peers once they are diagnosed and begin receiving extra training at home and at school. Adults with dyslexia can improve their skills with programs utilizing multisensory structured language techniques that help them learn to read, process, and express information more effectively; and

WHEREAS,

In an effort to assist parents, educators, and individuals with dyslexia or related learning disabilities, the International Dyslexia Association is designating October as Dyslexia Awareness Month nationwide. I encourage all Louisianians to offer support to those affected by dyslexia and related learning disorders and to recognize the dedicated efforts of those who are working to raise awareness and understanding and to identify, treat, and prevent problems associated with dyslexia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim October 2006, as

## DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Louisiana, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.



Attest By The Governor Faitles Salineauf Hauco

Secretary of State